

previous version of each claim being amended.

3. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of extracting the encoded information from the MRC comprises the step of scanning a bar code.

4. (Amended) The method of Claim 3, wherein the step of scanning a bar code comprises the step of scanning a universal product code (UPC).

7. (Amended) The method of Claim 6, wherein the personal scanner is a wireless scanner, and the step of transferring comprises the step of wirelessly transmitting to the retail processing system both the extracted encoded information from the MRC and the unique ID.

8. (Amended) The method of Claim 6, wherein the retail processing system is operable, upon receipt of the unique ID and the extracted information from the MRC, to perform the steps of:

extracting from a lookup table user information about the user that is associated with the unique user ID, which association is created prior to the step of providing the personal scanner to the user; and

completing the commercial transaction by transferring ownership of the article of commerce to the user associated with the user information.

11. (Amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of transferring occurs after multiple ones of the MRCs have been stored in association with multiple articles of commerce, and wherein the step of transferring ownership of the article of commerce to the user comprises the step of transferring ownership of all of the articles of commerce to the user.

16. (Amended) The system of Claim 12, and further comprising a personal

Claim B4 Cont'd

scanner having a memory associated therewith which is transferrable to a user wherein said MRC is scanned with said personal scanner and said encoded information from said scanned MRC is stored in said memory.

Claim B5

20. (Amended) The system of Claim 17, wherein said retail processing system further comprises a database having a record of said user of said personal scanner such that said user is associated with said unique scanner ID at said retail processing system prior to providing said personal scanner to said user.

21. (Amended) The system of Claim 16, wherein said extracted encoded information from the MRC and said unique identification information are transferred after said MRC is scanned.

22. (Amended) The system of Claim 16, wherein said extracted encoded information from said respective MRCs and said unique identification information are transferred after multiple ones of said MRCs have been stored in association with multiple articles of commerce, and wherein when ownership in one article of commerce is transferred to said user, ownership of all of the articles of commerce are transferred to said user.

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Office Action dated April 23, 2002. Applicant has amended Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 16 and 20-22 to more clearly point out the present inventive concept. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Applicant affirms the election of Species A, Claims 1-22 for prosecution in this Application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. Sec. 121.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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